

Remarks

Applicants submit that the nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection with respect to Serial No. 10/490,998 was moot at the time the Office Action was mailed, as that application is shown as abandoned in PAIR as of June 15th.

As to the only other remaining rejection, Applicants hope to have rendered the nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection with respect to Serial No. 10/537,199 moot by amendment to claim 1 (supported, *inter alia*, at page 1, line 15-16; page 4, line 25; and page 14, lines 3-4). New independent claim 11, incorporates previous claim 1 into a method of well-drilling.

The Examiner is cordially invited to call the undersigned to discuss an Examiner's Amendment if these changes do not put the case in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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